









**Hughes & Hough**  
AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

General Auctioneers  
Ships, Coal and General Produce  
Brokers and Commission  
Agents.

PROPRIETORS  
"To-Kwa-Wan" Coal Storage.

Codes used  
Bentley's  
A. & C. 4th & 5th Editions.  
A 1 Telegraphic Code.

Telegraphic Address  
"MERKUR" HONGKONG.

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), on

**THURSDAY,**  
the 28th February, 1918, at 2.45 p.m., at No. 25, Vaux Road, 51, The Park, Ground Floor.

THE FOLLOWING  
**VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,** &c.,  
One Bedroom Suite, Fumed Teakwood, practically new, (made to owner's design);  
One Dining Room Suite—comprising Massive Teakwood Extension Dining Table, Buffet, Dinner Wagon, Chairs Upholstered Drawing Room Chairs and Divan, Curtains and Poles.  
Rattan Furniture, Bath Room and Kitchen Utensils, &c.,  
Also  
Collard and Collard Piano in good condition, and Plants in Pots.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).  
On view from 27th inst. at 2 p.m.  
Terms:—Cash.

**HUGHES & HOUGH,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Feb. 21, 1918. 180

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), on

**TUESDAY,**  
the 5th March, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A CONSIGNMENT OF  
**HOUSEHOLD LINENS,** &c.,  
Comprising:—  
Single and Double Plain and Hem-stitched Sheets, Pillow Cases, Bed Quilts, Table Cloths, Pure Linen Damask Serviettes, Bath Sheets, Bath Towels, Turkish Towels,  
&c., &c., &c.

Terms:—Cash.

**HUGHES & HOUGH,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Feb. 20, 1918. 145

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), on

**TUESDAY,**  
the 5th March, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A QUANTITY OF  
**SECOND-HAND CONTRACTORS' PLANT,**  
Two 18-ft. Inversible vertical double crank compound set condensing twin series direct acting centrifugal pumping engines (one left hand and one right hand) steam cylinders 9 1/2 in. by 21 in. by 12 in. stroke with the necessary fittings and suction and delivery pipes for a lift of about 90 feet.  
Two Gates Rock and Ore Breakers (Allis Chalmers Co.) one No. 8 right angle style and one No. 2 right angle style with revolving screens, concave tines and fittings.  
One 20 in. by 10 in. Blake Crusher (Frasco & Chalmers) with manganese jaw plates.  
Two Taylor's patent 1 and 2 concrete mixers with steel framing and fittings, various and spare gear.  
One 6 in. Double Cylinder Manchester Pump by Pears 7 in. and 12 in. cylinders, 14 in. stroke with suction and delivery pipes about 90 ft.  
One 10 H.P. double cyl. Robey Portable Engine with usual fittings and mountings.  
One 8 in. Belt-driven Centrifugal Pump with suction and delivery pipes about 75-80 ft.  
Also  
A quantity of Steel Wire Rope, Old Metal, &c.  
On view from 10th March.  
Terms:—Cash.

**HUGHES & HOUGH,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Feb. 21, 1918. 146

## AUCTIONS.

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), on

**TUESDAY,**  
the 5th March, 1918, at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A QUANTITY OF  
**PERSIAN RUGS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY**  
Size 12 x 9  
On view Now.  
Terms:—as usual.

**HUGHES & HOUGH,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Feb. 21, 1918. 150

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), on

**WEDNESDAY,**  
the 6th March, 1918, at 11 a.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

AN ASSORTMENT OF  
**SILVER WARE, ELECTRO-PLATE, CLOISONNE, IVORY AND SATSUMA ARTICLES,** &c., &c., &c.  
Consisting of:—  
SILVER WARE.—Flower Bowls, Yases Bonbon Dishes, Dessert Knives Fish Servers, etc., etc.  
ELECTRO-PLATED GOODS.—Tea Kettle, Ice Pail, Cheese Dish, Punch Bowl, Coffee Pot, etc., etc.  
CLOISONNE, SATSUMA, IVORY, &c.—Carvings, Card Cases, Sweet Stands, Cigar Holder, etc., etc.  
Also  
Chafin Dish, Cake Dish, Electric Kettle, Travelling Clock, Brass Finger Bowls, Salad Bowl, etc., etc.  
and including:—  
A HANDSOME ENGLISH SILVER TEA SERVICE in Case.  
Terms:—Cash.

**HUGHES & HOUGH,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Feb. 23, 1918. 170

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), on

**SATURDAY,**  
the 9th March, 1918, at 10.30 a.m., at The Kowloon Railway Station.

AN ASSORTMENT OF STORES,  
As follows:—  
Lamp Glasses, Filters, Carpenters Tools, 4 Sets of Male Harness, Metallic Tapes, (various lengths), Iron Bolts and Nuts, Shutter Fastenings, Gauge Glasses, Sockets, Brass Cocks, Valves, &c., &c., Asbestos, India Rubber and Packings, a quantity of Plumbago, Cera Wax, Prussian Blue Pumice Stone, &c., &c., Electric Fittings and Sundries.  
&c., &c., &c.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).  
On view Friday, 8th March.  
Catalogues also obtained from the Station Master Kowloon.  
Terms:—Cash.

**HUGHES & HOUGH,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Feb. 23, 1918. 172

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
THE Undersigned have received instructions from the Liquidators of the Firm of Messrs. Funchan Lowman & Co., to sell by Public Auction, on

**MONDAY,**  
the 25th March, 1918, commencing at 11 a.m., at Ma-tan-kok, Kowloon City Road.

A QUANTITY OF  
**SECOND-HAND CONTRACTORS' PLANT,**  
Two 18-ft. Inversible vertical double crank compound set condensing twin series direct acting centrifugal pumping engines (one left hand and one right hand) steam cylinders 9 1/2 in. by 21 in. by 12 in. stroke with the necessary fittings and suction and delivery pipes for a lift of about 90 feet.  
Two Gates Rock and Ore Breakers (Allis Chalmers Co.) one No. 8 right angle style and one No. 2 right angle style with revolving screens, concave tines and fittings.  
One 20 in. by 10 in. Blake Crusher (Frasco & Chalmers) with manganese jaw plates.  
Two Taylor's patent 1 and 2 concrete mixers with steel framing and fittings, various and spare gear.  
One 6 in. Double Cylinder Manchester Pump by Pears 7 in. and 12 in. cylinders, 14 in. stroke with suction and delivery pipes about 90 ft.  
One 10 H.P. double cyl. Robey Portable Engine with usual fittings and mountings.  
One 8 in. Belt-driven Centrifugal Pump with suction and delivery pipes about 75-80 ft.  
Also  
A quantity of Steel Wire Rope, Old Metal, &c.  
On view from 10th March.  
Terms:—Cash.

**HUGHES & HOUGH,**  
Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, Feb. 21, 1918. 146

## NEWS FROM LONDON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

December 24, 1917.  
FOOD QUERIES.

Christmas week in old England has witnessed much hunting for food. The poor and even the well-to-do classes have stood in queues outside shops to get supplies of tea, margarine, butter, matches, bacon, condensed milk and several other commodities that of late we used to pick up at any shop we liked.

I suppose there is some food hoarding going on, as a contributory cause, but the chief reasons are shortage in these and many other staple lines, and the difficulties of distribution owing to lack of labour. Even what we have always called the "upper classes" have had to check their demands very carefully and their special stores are in hardly any better plight than the others. For example, on Saturday I went to the Army and Navy Stores, which, as most of your readers know, is a co-operative concern trading on the ticket-of-membership principle. The members are mostly of the wealthy classes, and the stores can exercise powerful influences in the markets to obtain supplies. But there I found no butter, no margarine, no matches, no tea, no condensed milk, no wholemeal flour, no sugar—I might extend the list almost indefinitely. There was a great display of other sorts of goods, and seeming plenty, but a whole host of essentials were in short supply and were sold out before noon daily.

Turkeys this Christmas are 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. a lb., instead of the usual 1s. 6d. or 1s. 8d., and other birds are soaring at similar heights. Beef and mutton are not so high in price, but the supplies are extremely all home-killed, and many butchers have more orders on hand than they can supply before Christmas Day. So great is the shortage that Smithfield wholesale market prepared to do business on Sunday to try to make up some of the lack in deliveries, but everything was sold out by Saturday night so there was nothing to offer until Monday.

To cope with the situation, the Food Controller issued powers to local Committees to "seize" stocks in the multiple shops and distribute them to retailers with empty shelves. This dissipated the queues somewhat. The situation on Christmas eve is that most families who have the money have been able to secure enough for their Christmas dinner, but nothing over.

Good whisky is 18s. 6d. a bottle, and wine is also up to extraordinary figures.

This considerably surprises the men who come home on leave, for they can get what they want in the canteens at the Front at something like normal prices. The situation has opened up what is evidently a fine field open to dutiful sons in France with impoverished fathers in England.

A gentleman recently wrote to his son, and in a semi-jocular vein mentioned that he could not get whisky for love or money, and would soon be reduced to plain water. By return post, much to his surprise, he received a bottle of whisky from France. "Wishing you a happy Christmas," further correspondence revealed the fact that the boy had bought the bottle of whisky in France for three shillings and sixpence, and had paid one shilling postage on it.

Whilst tenderly rebuking his son for this possible breach of the postal or other regulations, it occurred to the parent, as it does to most people, that it is somewhat extraordinary that Scotch whisky, or Irish for that matter, can be sold in France, presumably at a reasonable profit, at three shillings and sixpence, whilst we in this country have to fight for our lives to get it at double figures.

Of course, the secret is that the Government control most of the supplies for the Army and send it over duty free. At home, however, a great difficulty in all household supplies is the organisation of distribution. It was the neglect of this in the days of peace which was our chief commercial sin of omission. And now we are paying expensively for not having seen to it before.

The question of communal kitchens is one exercising a good many minds. There is no doubt that if it were adequately arranged it would save considerable waste in food stuffs. In all the London Club's Government appeal is put up to the members to drink light wines instead of

large beer for the consumption of the working man. This would be admirable if it were not that in several of these clubs the supply of light wines is completely exhausted, and wine merchants can supply no more until the Government releases the large stocks in bond.

STILL THE HUNS.

Everyone will recall how the Kaiser instructed the German troops who took part in the relief of the Legation at Peking in the Boxer Rebellion to emulate the spirit of the Huns, and how well they carried out the policy of pillaging. The spirit survives.

The Germans are undoubtedly the most skillful and systematic robbers who have yet overrun Europe. The full story of their plundering in Belgium will never be told, but even in war time new facts leak out which shed illumination upon the German character. They have now requisitioned all mats and rugs in Belgium, and also all dogs over a certain height. The latter are to be killed for their skins, and probably for something else as well, for an edict has been published in Germany prohibiting newspapers to accept advertisements for dogflesh. An Englishman who had large warehouses on the quayside at Antwerp recently saw photographs of the buildings, together with advertisements offering them for sale in a Frankfurt paper. The German's faith in his fellow countrymen is not strong, for the owner learns that no bid was made for his property.

FREE MASONRY IN WAR.

The effect of the war upon Masonry will be one of the most interesting chapters in the long history of the brotherhood. One interesting incident in Masonic development may be recalled. There are many Masons among the interned men of the Naval Brigade which took part in the defence of Antwerp, and the Groeninge Lodge of the Grand Circuit of the Netherlands showed itself most fraternal to the brethren who were enforced recipients of Dutch hospitality. Constitutional and international reasons prevented the formation of an English lodge in a place within the jurisdiction of the Dutch grand orient, and so the interned Masons applied for a warrant for a Lodge in which they could meet and for permission to use the English ritual. Dutch Masonry was most responsive. Permission was readily granted, and by sending its high officers to attend the consecration ceremony showed its fraternal spirit in this interesting war departure. English Masons had not been backward in expressing their appreciation of the kindness shown by their Dutch brethren, and doubtless when happier times come, and the members of the "interned" lodge return home they will be affiliated to a lodge in this country.

THE EXCEPTIONS.

It is interesting to come across "the exceptions that prove the rule." Here is an incident extracted from a letter written by an officer at the Front to his wife:—"So far as I can learn, the gallantry of two German officers held up one of our divisions. Our tanks had passed over several hostile trenches, and there is no doubt that they caused a panic among the Boches. As they appeared over the ridge opposite the important tactical point, the German gunners bolted, but the two officers stayed and continued to fire the guns with their own hands. They were both killed but not until they had hit ten or a dozen of the tanks, and thereby delayed our advance." One generally hears of German soldiers being driven on by their officers; there is a refreshing gallantry about this little incident which suggests that these two brave officers were not Prussians.

OUR DEBILITATED ENEMIES.

While we are experiencing high prices and short supplies in some directions, our enemies are hard up for food in almost all lines, and are consuming substitutes to the detriment of their health.

Germany might be defeated by the Spring if only there is a desperately hard winter, said a prominent American resident in London. "They are so desperately short of fats, and as for synthetic rubber, lately alluded to by one Hun official, that is absolute bunkum." Your Bishop of London was right when he said the weather had always been on the side of the enemy, but the longest run in gambling invariably comes to an end. Don't you see? The entire enemy nations are debilitated by acute privations such as the Allies will never experience. You may bet on the consequent depression, and on pretty tall mortality among the old folk and weaklings. If those War Lords have initiated meretricious suffering on the world, they have callously dealt out to their own people such misery and will never come near the Anglo-Saxon races. If it is the Germans' business to promote discontent in England, Every grumble here is as bad as a German bullet.

America might settle your Irish question in an hour, if you would use the words of my American friend, "See here it is stated in the Press that there is a quarter of a million British troops in Ireland. Pack 600,000 whole loaves of war and let them eat it. The Irish are not to be starved, but they are to be fed."

## CITY HALL WORK PARTY.

Four cases were packed between February 1st and February 7th. One was sent to the 45th Hospital, Alexandria, and 3 were sent to Bombay for Mesopotamia.

They contained:—10 mufflers, 1 pair of socks, 27 pillows, 184 vests, 126 bed-jackets, 48 eye bandages, 43 mosquito nets, 27 abdominal belts, 4 caps, 45 dozen handkerchiefs, 103 pairs of pyjamas, 28 shrouds, 10 reversible bed-jackets, 7 surgical suits, 6 gauze vests, 80 pairs of slippers, 48 theatre squares, 46 milk covers, 24 head bandages, 44 scrubbers, 4 pairs of bed-boots, 1 bezique, 76 shirts, old linen, playing cards, 5 pillows, 108 vests, 78 bed-jackets, 24 eye bandages, 40 mosquito nets, 41 dozen handkerchiefs, 93 pairs of pyjamas, 15 shrouds, 3 reversible bed-jackets, 5 pairs of slippers, 86 tray covers, 13 milk covers, 9 head bandages, 20 scrubbers and 2 pairs of bed-boots.

To the above list the Italian Convention contributed 10 shirts.  
The ladies of Quarry Bay have collected a further \$10 towards the Fund for buying wool for slippers.

We adjourn letters from Mesopotamia which speak with appreciation of our work.

**ETHEL M. STABB,**  
February 23rd, 1918.

British Red Cross and Order of St. John  
Base Depot, Basrah.  
Office of the Red Cross  
Commissioner,  
55 Strand, Basrah.  
Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force,  
December 19th, 1917.

Mrs. N. J. Stabb,  
City Hall Work Party,  
Queen Mary's Needlework Guild,  
Hongkong, China.

DEAR MADAM,—Permit me not only on behalf of the Red Cross in Mesopotamia but still more so on behalf of the sick and wounded men in the Hospitals who receive your very welcome gifts—to thank you for all you are doing for them. I need hardly add that the kind thought which has prompted the dispatch of these gifts from so far away is greatly appreciated by the sick and wounded of the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force.—Yours truly,

S. M. MOXNA, Lieut. Col.  
Red Cross Commissioner,  
Mes. Exped. Force.

British Red Cross and Order of St. John  
Base Depot, Basrah.  
20th December, 1917.

Mrs. N. J. Stabb,  
City Hall Work Party,  
City Hall,  
Hongkong.

DEAR MADAM,—I have to acknowledge receipt of 10 cases of gifts which arrived from the Hongkong Branch of Queen Mary's Needlework Guild.

May I on behalf of the above Society thank you most heartily for these gifts of which every item we are in need of, they will go a long way in relieving the sick and wounded amongst whom they have been distributed.—Yours truly,

HENRY HOWELL, Captain,  
Base Stores, Basrah.

their training in Ireland. At the same time have a firm conception of Irishmen of military age—my God, how well they'd fight. Then you'd have a safe Ireland; the Convention could arrange its programme, and Sinn Féin would be as dead as a nutcracker.

Maybe the Irish situation is not so easily settled as that, but it is not betraying any secret to state there is not now the bitter and extreme opposition of Ulster leaders to a reasonable compromise.

AN INTERESTING LETTER.

Surely the most interesting letter in the world, the letter written by Mary Queen of Scots on her execution to her brother-in-law Henry III of France, is to go to the National Archives, where the letter should have been sold by auction in the Morrison sale. The price was not mentioned.  
At an autograph sale one is constantly haunted with the thoughts of what the writers might have felt if they could have glimpsed into future life and seen their letters being passed about and appraised. The content when that lost lady of old years in her stone chamber wrote those delicate, clear lines (there, where the pen stopped and she paused to think of her next sentence, she must have heard the sob of her women) and the scene in the sale room this week, where the sharp-eyed merchants and dealers dropped in and made their comments, is particularly uncanny.

From the same collection four letters by Oliver Cromwell also passed into the keeping of the nation. One of these letters describes the battle of Marston Moor, on which Cromwell wrote:—"God made them as well as our swords." The Cromwell letters are to go to Chesham, where they will be the pride of our people.

## INTERNATIONS

THE SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE,  
HONGKONG.

# WAR BONDS DRAWING

(IN AID OF WAR CHARITIES).

TICKETS \$5 each HONGKONG CURRENCY.

## PRIZES:

If \$500,000 is available for distribution:—

WAR CHARITIES will receive	\$125,000
FIRST PRIZE	\$187,500
SECOND PRIZE	\$56,250
THIRD PRIZE	\$37,500
100 PRIZES of \$1,000 to \$500...	\$93,750
Total	\$500,000

## YOUR \$5 TICKET

## MAY WIN YOU

## ANY ONE OF ABOVE PRIZES.

TICKETS obtainable at Banks, Clubs and Leading Stores.

**The Signature.**

To distinguish the original and genuine Worcestershire Sauce from the many imitations, see that the signature of **LEA & PERRINS** appears in *White* across the *Red* label on every bottle.

No other sauce has such an exquisitely delicate flavour, or such a reputation among discriminating people in every part of the world.

*Lea & Perrins*

## AUCTION.

**PUBLIC AUCTION.**  
PARTICULARS and Conditions of the Sale by Public Auction, to be held on **THURSDAY**, the 28th day of February, 1918, at 3 p.m. at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of **ORON LAND** at Causeway Bay, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 25 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent, to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

Particulars of the Lot.

Lot	Area	Boundaries	Remarks
1	1/2 acre	Fronting Causeway Bay	One Lot of Oron Land

## "REGAL"

## RECORDS

6897	A Military Church Parade... Band
6898	Elephants Marched Around
6899	March (Punchinello March)
6900	Australian March
6901	Easy March
6902	The President March
6903	Aladdin March
7314	Cosack March
7315	Soldiers' Return March

## THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.

**WAI KEE**  
FLAG & SAILMAKER  
No. 129, Des Vaux Road, Causeway Bay, Hongkong.  
Telephone No. 1833.



**WATSON'S**  
COMPOUND  
**BALSAM OF ANISEED**  
Gives immediate relief in all  
cases of  
**COUGH.**  
Price: 50 cents and \$1.00  
per Bottle.

PREPARED ONLY BY  
**A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,**  
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.  
Telephone 16.

**THE CALENDAR.**

**MEMO. FOR TO-DAY.**  
11.15.—Harmston's Circus opens at  
Carnegie Hall.

**MEMO. FOR TO-MORROW.**  
Third day of Races.

**GENERAL MEMORANDA.**  
THURSDAY, Feb. 28:—  
11.30 a.m.—Meeting of China Provi-  
dential Loan & Mortgage Co.  
FRIDAY, March 1:—  
12.15 p.m.—Hongkong Hotel Co.'s  
half-yearly meeting of shareholders.  
7.15 p.m.—Auction of Teakwood and  
Blackwood Furniture etc. at Messrs.  
Hughes & Hough's.  
FRIDAY, March 2:—  
11 a.m.—Extraordinary General Meet-  
ing of the Kowloon Land & Building  
Co., Ltd.  
FRIDAY, March 29:—  
Good Friday.  
SATURDAY, March 31:—  
Easter Sunday.

**THE CHINA MAIL.**  
NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should  
be addressed to THE EDITOR.  
Correspondents must forward their  
names and addresses with any communi-  
cation addressed to the Editor, not necessarily  
for publication but as evidence of good  
faith.

All matter for publication should be  
written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to business should be  
addressed to THE MANAGER.  
Rate of subscription to "China Mail" is  
\$30 per annum; per quarter and per men-  
sue "pro rata".  
The "China Mail" is delivered free to  
subscribers in Hongkong and Kowloon.  
Postage is charged at the rate of fifty  
cents per month.  
Orders for extra copies of the "China  
Mail" should be sent as soon as possible as  
the supply is limited. Cash 10 cts. Credit  
\$10 cts. per copy.  
Rate of subscription to the "Overland  
China Mail" is \$12 per annum; postage  
\$1 per annum extra. Single copies twenty  
five cents each.  
Alterations and additions to Advertis-  
ments on Pages 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 should  
be sent to the Office, No. 5, Wyndham  
Street, not later than 11.30 a.m.  
Alterations and additions to Advertis-  
ments on pages 1, 4, 6, and 8 should be  
sent on not later than 1 p.m.  
New Advertisements should be sent in  
before 9 p.m.  
Advertisements and Subscriptions which  
are not ordered to a fixed period will be  
continued until countermanded.  
Telephone Address: "Mail" Hongkong.  
Cable: A. S. W. 5th Edition.  
Telephone No. 22.  
THE CHINA MAIL, LIMITED.

**THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER**  
EVER ISSUED UNDER  
PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

**The Chinese Mail**  
華字日報

THE LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND  
COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

CONTAINS THE MOST  
UP-TO-DATE NEWS FROM  
NORTH CHINA.

ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM THE  
VARIOUS PORTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

\$11.00 per annum delivered in Hongkong  
\$12.50 to all other ports.

WILLIAMSON STREET, HONGKONG.

**THE OVERLAND  
CHINA MAIL**

CONTAINS ALL THE LOCAL  
NEWS OF THE WEEK.

ILLUSTRATION: THE NEW  
WATERWORKS AT TYTAM  
TUK.

PRINTED BY THE CHINA MAIL, LIMITED.

means that there is more for  
America to do, "and we can do it,  
and shall do it." The St. Louis  
"Post-Dispatch," reflecting the  
opinion of the South-West, says  
substantially the same thing, and  
the "Chronicle," of Houston, Tex.,  
speaking for the South, says: "It  
matters not what the cost may be,  
the only way to peace lies through  
victory, and those are stupid indeed  
who do not see that victory is up  
to us." Many similar expressions  
showing this confidence and deter-  
mination could be given, and the  
coming year will prove to the Ger-  
man people that the success of their  
intrigue and duplicity in Russia has  
served but to strengthen the deter-  
mination of the more enlightened  
democracies of the world to accom-  
plish the objects for which they  
entered the war.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The price of bread in Yokohama  
was raised 50 per cent. on the 15th inst.  
because of the high price of flour. The  
new price is 18 sen a kin.

Mr. A. Brooke-Smith, of Messrs.  
Jardine, Matheson and Co., left Shang-  
hai for home last week. He was given  
a very hearty send-off at the jetty by  
his many friends.

We regret to learn from to-day's  
cables of the death of Sir Henry Blake  
who from 1898 to 1903 was Governor  
of Hongkong. A review of his career  
is held over until to-morrow.

We learn that Commodore Sande-  
man, R.N. and Lieut.-Col. John  
Ward, M.P. have been honoured by  
appointment as Companions of the Most  
Distinguished Order of St. Michael and  
St. George.

We have to ask the indulgence  
of readers to-day for several small  
typographical errors which it has been  
impossible to correct owing to the gas  
supply to our Linotype machine being  
cut off, owing to the disaster at the  
Race course.

SATURDAY'S THEATRICAL  
ENTERTAINMENT.

Mr. Stokes informs us that the  
entertainment which took place on  
Saturday last at the Theatre Royal for  
The Mercantile Marine in England and  
the Naval Prisoners of War realized, by  
sales of tickets, programmes and sweets  
about \$2,500. Mr. Stokes has not the  
complete details but Mr. Robert Suther-  
land has kindly undertaken the  
Treasurership as Mr. Stokes is leaving  
to-morrow for Shanghai and he will  
very shortly give full particulars.  
There are no expenses to be deducted  
thanks to a few kind friends in the  
shipping world.

Mr. Stokes tenderly his grateful thanks  
to all who helped both in front and  
behind the curtain; to the Police Reserve  
for their Band, to Messrs. Montrose & Co.  
for their valuable service free of charge  
and to the Press for their support.

THE CEREBRO-SPINAL  
EPIDEMIC.

The returns of the Medical Officer of  
Health for the week ending February  
23rd show 62 cases of cerebro-spinal  
fever, with 33 deaths. In the City of  
Victoria there were 45 cases and 14 in  
districts other than the city. All were  
Chinese cases but two, one of these  
being a British case and the other a  
Portuguese case.

## THE MAGISTRACY.

ALLEGED POCKET-PICKING  
AT THE RACES.

A young Chinese was charged before  
Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with  
picking the pocket of another Chinese at  
the Grand Stand enclosure yesterday.  
Defendant pleaded not guilty. He  
stated that he saw complainant's purse  
on the ground and pointed it out to  
him when the latter accused him of this  
theft and had him arrested.  
Complainant said he saw the defend-  
ant pick a purse out of his pocket.  
When witness arrested him, defendant  
dropped the purse.  
After further evidence Mr. Wood  
remanded the case until to-morrow.

GREAT CALAMITY.  
AT  
THE RACE COURSE.CROWDED STANDS COLLAPSE.  
DREADFUL LOSS OF LIFE.

At the Race course at Happy Valley  
at three o'clock this afternoon just, as  
the fifth race of the day was about to  
start a great calamity unexpectedly  
occurred.

The whole of the matched stands,  
suddenly collapsed, the whole falling  
backwards, towards the Golf Club  
pavilion.

At the time there were thousands  
of people, chiefly Chinese and Portu-  
guese, crowding the stands, and as  
the races were about to be resumed  
after the fifth interval, people were  
streaming to the booths to get a view of  
the race.

There was a loud crash of breaking  
timbers and the whole row of stands,  
which were erected on a continuous  
forest of poles, was seen to go.

Immediately there was a great rush  
to the scene from the Grand Stand  
enclosure and from outside the rails  
where thousands of Chinese, as usual,  
had congregated to watch the races.

It was a foregone conclusion  
that the collapse of the stands must  
have caused hundreds of casualties  
and when it was seen that a fire  
had broken out in the debris the  
horror of the calamity was instantly  
increased. Police, soldiers and civilians  
promptly set to work to extricate  
the unfortunate people from the  
debris, but before those farthest  
from the race track could be reached  
the fire obtained such a hold upon the  
debris that it is certain that the  
flames must have added greatly to the  
casualty list.

Telephone messages were sent for  
the Fire Brigade which answered the  
call quickly and got to work on the  
burning mass. The heat given out was  
so intense that the road between the  
entrance to the Race Course and the  
Golf Club house, quickly became almost  
impassable.

On some of these stands timbers  
were provided and it is assumed that fires  
which had been used for this purpose  
led to the outbreak when the whole  
structure collapsed. The material of  
which these stands are constructed  
naturally burnt very fiercely after the  
long period of dry weather which we  
have had.

The burning of the debris of the  
collapsed stands continued until every  
particle was razed to the ground.  
Then a most terrible sight was ex-  
hibited. Whole piles of charred bodies  
were to be seen at intervals. Although  
the total casualties will probably never  
be known, hundreds must have perished.

Meanwhile heroic assistance was  
being rendered to the injured and many  
ladies rendered first aid. All available  
motor cars were requisitioned to take  
the injured to the hospitals.

Mr. Britto, who was in the par-  
amutal compartment, said that the first  
he heard was a loud cracking as if an  
earthquake were taking place. The  
next he knew was that he was pinned  
under the counter together with  
a Chinese lady. He tried to  
extricate the lady and himself, but  
almost immediately he felt a heat  
wave, and realised that a fire had  
started. He next remembered being  
dragged out by a European Sergeant.

There were also many instances of  
heroic bravery by the Police Reserves  
and Service men. Of the instances  
so far known was that of Sergeant  
Kennedy who was rendered unconscious  
while rescuing the victims.

The most astonishing thing about the  
catastrophe was that the stands collapsed  
without any sort of warning. The whole  
length of the structures fell like a pack  
of cards, starting from the farthest end  
and extending the whole length look-  
ing from the Grand Stand of the Race  
Course. Immediately after, hundreds  
of people could be seen scrambling over  
the debris, falling through into the  
ruts every time an attempt was made  
to get a foothold.

Meanwhile the services of all Service  
men on the spot were commandeered  
and every effort was made to clear  
away the debris in order to make a  
breach to prevent the igniting of the  
United Services and Naval  
Dressing rooms which are adjacent.

Shortly it was noticed that one of the  
series of the Golf Club House was on  
fire and then the whole race track  
burned.

In a very short while the building  
was so well alight that it was seen  
nothing could save it. A large portion  
of the property, such as golf clubs etc.  
was taken out on to the road, but the  
building itself was finally burnt to the  
ground.

It is impossible to estimate at present  
what the extent of the loss of life is,  
but it is probable that it will run into  
many hundreds.

## RACES SUSPENDED.

On the occurrence of the disaster  
the Races were, of course, suspended.

## HARMSTON'S CIRCUS.

## SUCCESSFUL OPENING NIGHT.

The proprietors of Harmston's  
Circus must have wished, last night,  
that their tent had been double its  
size, for had that been the case,  
many patrons would still have had  
to stand. As it was, every available  
seat and all standing room was occu-  
pied, last night, for the opening per-  
formance, which fully justified the  
claims made by Mr. Willie Harmst-  
on, that his is the finest Circus  
travelling the East.

The performance goes with a swing  
and a continuity that is surprising,  
and the ring is not left vacant for a  
moment. When any particular act  
requires adjustment of apparatus, the  
funny clowns keep the audience in  
roars of laughter.

It would be difficult to pick out any  
particular act as predominating in  
excellence. For those who like per-  
forming animals, there are exhibitions  
of masterpieces of training. Mr.  
Willie Harmston has an Arab Stallion  
that does almost anything but talk,  
and the elephants and other ponies  
and horses are also wonderfully  
clever.

The other items include Equestrian  
acts, Acrobatic acts, Roman Ring  
acts, Knife-throwing acts, Wire-  
Walking acts—in fact, every conceiv-  
able act that can possibly be perform-  
ed in a Circus, and each is executed  
with such excellence as we have  
seldom seen in any show of the kind.  
Harmston's Circus is, no doubt, going  
to enjoy a most successful season in  
Hongkong.

It might also be mentioned that  
the location of the Circus is very con-  
venient. Cars take one to within a  
minute's walk of the tent, and the  
Management has very thoughtfully  
had the approach well lit up with  
Kitson lights. Arrangements have  
been also made for late tram cars,  
and last, but not least, the comfort  
of patrons with regard to the seating  
accommodation, etc., has been care-  
fully considered.

## YACHTING.

## ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The Sixth of the series of Club  
Championship Races for the Handicap  
Class, One Design Class, and Hayward  
Hays and Gail Class was sailed off on  
Saturday afternoon with the following  
results:

**HANDICAP CLASS.**  
Course.—Mark Boat in Quarry Bay  
(S). Start Rock Bay (S). Channel Rocks  
(S). Lyemum Beacon (S). Distance: 8  
miles.

**Yacht.** Course. Time. Corrected  
Time.  
M. S. H. M. S. H. M. S.  
Dione..... 1.30. 4.25.05. 4.25.05.  
Bella..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Jessica..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Diana..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Colleen..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Aileen..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.

**Position.** Pts. for race. Pts. to date.  
(1) Dione..... 5..... 20  
(2) Bella..... 4..... 17  
(3) Jessica..... 3..... 14  
(4) Diana..... 2..... 11  
(5) Colleen..... 1..... 8  
(6) Aileen..... 0..... 5

**ONE DESIGN CLASS.**  
Course.—Lyemum Beacon (P). Kow-  
loon Rock (P). Mark Boat in Quarry Bay  
(S). Distance: 8 miles.

**Yacht.** Course. Time. Corrected  
Time.  
M. S. H. M. S. H. M. S.  
Aileen..... 1.30. 4.25.05. 4.25.05.  
Bella..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Dione..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Diana..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Colleen..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Aileen..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.

**Position.** Pts. for race. Pts. to date.  
(1) Aileen..... 6..... 20  
(2) Bella..... 5..... 17  
(3) Dione..... 4..... 14  
(4) Diana..... 3..... 11  
(5) Colleen..... 2..... 8  
(6) Aileen..... 1..... 5

**HAYWARD HAYS AND GAIL CLASS.**  
Course.—Lyemum Beacon (P). Kow-  
loon Rock (P). Mark Boat in Quarry Bay  
(S). Distance: 8 miles.

**Yacht.** Course. Time. Corrected  
Time.  
M. S. H. M. S. H. M. S.  
Lyemum..... 1.30. 4.25.05. 4.25.05.  
Diana..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Bella..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Dione..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Colleen..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.  
Aileen..... 1.30. 4.25.11. 4.25.11.

**Position.** Pts. for race. Pts. to date.  
(1) Dione..... 6..... 20  
(2) Bella..... 5..... 17  
(3) Jessica..... 4..... 14  
(4) Diana..... 3..... 11  
(5) Colleen..... 2..... 8  
(6) Aileen..... 1..... 5

**Position.** Pts. for race. Pts. to date.  
(1) Dione..... 6..... 20  
(2) Bella..... 5..... 17  
(3) Jessica..... 4..... 14  
(4) Diana..... 3..... 11  
(5) Colleen..... 2..... 8  
(6) Aileen..... 1..... 5

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY  
CLUB.

## SECOND DAY.

## SIR ELLIS KADOORIE'S WIN.

Glorious weather favoured the  
second day of the races and a large  
number of people again attended,  
including His Excellency the Govern-  
or and party from Government  
House.

The Band of the Middlesex Regi-  
ment again enlivened the proceedings  
with an excellently rendered pro-  
gramme of music as follows:—

The great event of the day was the  
Derby and it brought forth a great  
and gratifying surprise. After  
Dominoes exhibition in the Trial Plate  
yesterday by snatching the win  
from Salamander at the post Mr.  
Johnstone's mount was much fa-  
voured for the Blue Ribbon of the  
meeting. Salamander was a hot

favourite until he lost to Domino in  
the 6th race on the opening day; still  
he had a good number of followers  
and Mr. Ezra was relied upon to pilot  
his mount home and win from Mr.  
John Peel's favoured pony. From  
the Cat's stables, Wild Cat made a  
poor showing in the Professional Cup  
and Mr. Adamerie stable, therefore,  
was not much fancied in the great  
event of the day. The unlooked for  
happened, however, and Sir Ellis  
Kadoorie's Tytam Chief, a rank out-  
sider, ridden by Mr. Knoll, won by a  
short head. The race provided one  
of the hardest fought finishes of the  
meeting and Sir Ellis Kadoorie and  
his jockey were loudly cheered, the  
win being a most popular one. The  
description of the race will be found  
below:—

**THE JOCKEY CUP.**—Winner  
\$500. Second \$200. Third \$100.  
For China Ponies. Subscription  
Griffins of any Season. To be rid-  
den by Jockeys who have not had  
more than two winning mounts  
previous to this Meeting in Hong-  
kong or China. Weight for inches  
as per scale. Winners barred.  
Entrance \$5. Once Round.

Mr. Billard's Green Cloth, 11st 11lb  
(Mr. Barton) 1  
Newman, Beeth and Ross King Dick,  
11st 4lb (Mr. Sutton) 2  
Mr. Dobbins's Humman, 10st 12lb  
(Mr. Kremer) 3  
Also ran: Tabby Cat (Mr. Reid),  
White Cat (Mr. Elias), Dividend (Mr.  
Congdon), Bitterne (Mr. Morrison).

After a good start Humman shot  
ahead with Green Cloth second and  
Tabby Cat last. In the back stretch  
the favourite, Green Cloth, went in  
partnership with Humman, with  
King Dick third. At the Bowington  
Gate, Green Cloth was still leading  
by a length from Humman with  
King Dick third. Dividend, then  
forcing the pace, took third place.  
At the bottom of the incline, before  
reaching the Rock, Tabby Cat took  
second place. Green Cloth was still  
leading at the Rock; King Dick  
second and Dividend third. The  
same order obtained down the incline,  
Green Cloth leading, by two lengths.  
Round the bend the leader went  
further ahead and there was a fine  
race for second place between Hun-  
tman and King Dick. Green Cloth  
won by many lengths with a short  
head between Humman and King  
Dick.

Time:—1min. 5secs.  
Pari-Mutuel:—Winner, \$8.00; 1st,  
\$5.80; 2nd, \$10.20; 3rd, \$17.70.

Cash Sweeps:—1st, No. 830,  
\$1,145; 2nd, No. 128, \$227; 3rd, No.  
51, \$163; 4th, No. 128, \$227; 5th, No.  
51, \$163; 6th, No. 128, \$227; 7th, No.  
51, \$163; 8th, No. 128, \$227; 9th, No.  
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## TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

## THE SOCIALIST CONFERENCE.

## BRITISH LABOUR WAR AIMS ACCEPTED.

LONDON, Feb. 23. Mr. Arthur Henderson, presiding at an inter Allied Socialist Conference luncheon, stated that the Conference, in substance, accepted the British Labour war aims memorandum, including the independence of Belgium, Serbia, Rumania and Montenegro and basing other territorial changes mainly on justice and right.

Mr. Henderson said their aims constituted the irreducible minimum. He ridiculed the so-called foolish talk of British Labour going to negotiate with an olive branch in its hands while the enemy was fully armed.

## THE CHINESE LABOUR BATTALIONS.

## A Y.M.C.A. APPEAL.

LONDON, Feb. 21. The Y.M.C.A. is appealing for £70,000 for the welfare of many thousands of Chinese labourers in France.

The China Association has contributed over £10,000 towards the amount.

## THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, Feb. 24. The Silver Market is steady.

LONDON, Feb. 21. Messrs. Samuel, Montagu and Company's Silver report states that the Market is dull and there has been a slight further fall in price. The Shanghai Exchange is disposed to be steady.

It is reported from Washington that the United States will furnish Mexico with £1,000,000 worth of gold before April in return for Mexico removing the restrictions on the export of Silver. In this event, supplies are likely to become more plentiful as the year advances.

The Indian silver holding is the lowest since November 11, 1913.

## THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

LONDON, Feb. 21. At the monthly conference of the cotton employers, operatives and the Lancashire Members of the House of Commons, it was reported that the understanding to allow cotton imports sufficient to supply sixty per cent of the spindles had, so far, been carried out, but shipping for exports is inadequate and the stocks of manufacturers are accumulating.

## NEW BISHOP OF FUKIEN.

LONDON, Feb. 21. The Rev. John Hind, the Headmaster of the Church Missionary Society's High School at Foochow, has been appointed Bishop of Fukien in succession to Bishop Price, who has resigned.

## OBITUARY.

LONDON, Feb. 23. The death is announced of Sir Henry Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G., F.R.G.S.

## HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Orders issued by Mr. F. C. Teakle, D.S.P. (R.).

Instructions.

All ranks, including those on duty on that day, will be inspected by His Excellency the Governor on the Polo Ground at 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 3rd. No exemptions, except by the Surgeon Superintendent, will be granted.

Uniforms with helmets.

Transfers will leave Queen's Statue Square at 3 p.m. sharp. Men will assemble at this point under the Second in Command.

Fall in on the Polo Ground at the Shanklin end, but facing Jockey Club Stables, at 3.15 p.m.

Mounted Police will patrol until 3.45 p.m. keeping the public beyond the boards which limit the Polo Ground.

Transfers will leave Causeway Bay on the return journey at about 5.15 p.m.

DISCIPLINARY BOARD.

A Disciplinary Board will sit regularly on Mondays (except Holidays) at Headquarters Club at 5.15 p.m.

Inspectors of the various commands may attend in rotation as members thereof.

The first regular Board will sit on Monday, March 4th.

By Order.

T. Y. HONOR.

A.S.P. (R) and Adjutant

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

## THE RUSSIAN PEACE.

## GERMANY ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF PEACE OFFER.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 22. Germany admits receipt of the document confirming Russia's peace offer signed by M. Lenin and M. Trotsky.

It is semi-officially stated that Germany will not reply immediately as Dr. von Kuehlmann is meanwhile otherwise engaged in Bukharest.

## GERMANY'S PEACE TERMS.

LONDON, Feb. 24.

A Russian wireless message says:—Replying to the Russian proposals of February 19, Germany, on February 21, intimated her readiness to conclude peace as follows:—

1.—Germany and Russia to declare the state of war ended.

2.—The regions west of the line indicated at Brestlitovsk to the Russian Delegation, formerly belonging to Russia, to be no longer under Russian territorial protection; in the region of Dvinsk this line must be advanced to the eastern frontier of Courland, and Germany and Austria-Hungary will define the further fate of these regions in agreement with their populations.

3.—Livonia and Estonia must be immediately cleared of Russian troops and Red Guards and be occupied by German police till security is guaranteed by their constitutions.

4.—Russia will conclude peace with Ukraine and evacuate Ukraine and Finland.

5.—Russia to do her utmost to secure the orderly return of the eastern Anatolian frontiers to Turkey.

6.—Complete demobilization of the Russian Army.

7.—The Russian Fleet, including Entente warships, must be kept in Russian harbours till a general peace, or must be disbanded.

8.—The Russo-German commercial treaty of 1904 comes into force, free export of ores must be guaranteed and a new commercial treaty must be negotiated.

9.—Legal and political relations will be regulated in accordance with the first German-Russian conventions.

10.—Russia promises to end all propaganda against the Quadruplex.

11.—The conditions must be accepted within forty-eight hours and Russian Plenipotentiaries must sign at Brestlitovsk within three days the peace treaty, which must be ratified in a fortnight.

TROTSKY AND LENIN ACCEPT PEACE TERMS.

LONDON, Feb. 24.

A wireless Russian official message says that M. Lenin and M. Trotsky have sent a message to Berlin of Russia's acceptance of the German peace conditions and is sending a delegation to Brestlitovsk.

THE ADVANCE INTO ESTHONIA.

LONDON, Feb. 24.

A German official message says:—We advanced by forced marches into Esthonia, the enemy resisting at some points.

We are approaching Reval.

We took 1,000 prisoners and liberated 600 Austrians and Germans at Walk.

We captured Ostrov.

We took 1,000 prisoners at Balbinovo and have occupied Bornissov and Linsingens and our troops have entered Iskorost.

BRITISH SUBJECTS WARNED TO LEAVE.

LONDON, Feb. 23.

The Times Petrograd Correspondent says that a British military order has been issued to all Britishers of military age in Petrograd, who have been hitherto exempted to be ready to start homewards on six hours notice. Other Britishers able to go, especially women and children, are advised to leave Russia without delay.

EXPECTED RENEWAL OF NEGOTIATIONS.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 22.

The Lokal Anzeiger states that after a conference with Count Czernin and Premier Averescu at Bucharest, Dr. von Kuehlmann, who has come to Bucharest, expects to renew negotiations with Russia at Brestlitovsk if the Russians undertake to accept the terms laid down.

GERMANS MAY CAPTURE RUSSIA'S ICE-BOUND FLEET.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 22.

The Russian Fleet, including a number of modern dreadnoughts, is ice-bound at Reval and Helsingfors and it is feared that unless the vessels are destroyed, they may fall into the hands of the Germans as the crews will not fight.

GERMAN PRESS TRUCULENT.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 23.

The German Press is most truculent as regards the negotiations with Rumania. It expresses the opinion that owing to the hopelessness of her military situation Rumania will not expect too much, while the Hungarian Premier, replying to an interpellation in the Lower House, has forecasted the military and economic subjugation of Rumania.

THE MASK TOWN FROM GERMANY.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 23.

The Commissaries of the People have appointed a special General Staff for the district of Petrograd and martial law has been established under which "counter-revolutionary elements" will be exterminated without difficulty, and the whole population has been mobilised for defence work.

An extraordinary session of the Soviet Parliament has considered recent events. M. Sverdlov, presiding, said that now the mask was torn from Germany nothing remained but to save the republic. Parliament passed a resolution approving of the acts of the Executive and relying upon the workers, soldiers and peasants to support the Soviet authority.

## GUERRILLA WARFARE CONTEMPLATED.

LONDON, Feb. 22.

A wireless Russian message says:—General Krylenko has ordered a revolutionary mobilisation to form guerrilla warfare in every street, village and town if the Germans refuse to conclude peace.

OPERATIONS BY FLEET HOPELESS.

LONDON, Feb. 22.

The Russian naval authorities have given up hope of active operations by the Fleet, which is completely disorganised.

THE BESIEGED HELSINGFORS STUDENTS.

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 23.

The besieged students in the Helsingfors district number 5,000. They are stranded in the Pellinge archipelago. The Swedish Minister of Marine has announced that a naval expedition is impossible owing to the ice.

Representations are being made to Helsingfors.

ENEMY PEACE BASED ON USURPATION.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 22.

The Bolshevik Commissaries, in a further proclamation, declare that the enemy peace terms are based on usurpation and violence. It denounces the German offensive as a raid of brigandage and accuses the bourgeoisie of a sympathetic attitude towards Germany in order to overthrow the Revolution.

The Commissaries renew their appeals to the Soviets to organise an army, to expel harmful elements, to strain every nerve to improve supplies and to exercise severe discipline throughout the country.

RUMANIAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

PREMIERS MEETING AT BUCHAREST.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 22.

The Rumanian Premier, Generalissimo Averescu, has arrived at Bukharest to meet Dr. Kuehlmann.

Count Czernin is expected.

FIREARMS PROHIBITION IN GALWAY AND TIPPERARY.

LONDON, Feb. 23.

An order by Major General Sir Bryan Mahon has been issued in Dublin prohibiting the carrying or keeping of firearms, munitions and explosives in the counties of Galway and Tipperary.

THE SOCIALIST CONFERENCE.

AGREEMENT APPROACHING.

LONDON, Feb. 24.

It is stated that the inter-Allied Socialist Conference is approaching an agreement on the War Aims Memorandum, which has been endorsed practically unchanged. The League of Nations and economic relations proposals of the British Memorandum made progress.

The more difficult subject of territorial adjustments has been revised and the Conference has strengthened the paragraph relating to Alsace-Lorraine in the direction of claiming restitution of the provinces to France.

The Italian Socialists attended yesterday and submitted a memorandum in favour of the League of Nations, declaring that the breaking-up of Austria-Hungary was indispensable to peace.

THE FRENCH AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORANDUM.

The French amendment to the British Memorandum, which the inter-Allied Socialist Conference has adopted, declares that as the German declaration of war in 1914 deliberately broke the treaty of Frankfurt, it would be open to the League of Nations to reconsider the whole question of Alsace-Lorraine.

The Conference further declares that the future of the German colonies in the tropics should be left in the hands of the League of Nations, due regard being paid to the wishes of the people of the neighbouring British commonwealths.

BELGIAN DELEGATE CONDEMNNS BOLSHEVISM.

M. Vandervelde, the Belgian delegate, presiding at the inter-Allied Socialist Conference, said they could not ignore what the Bolsheviks had done to discredit international Socialism and Democracy. They had made an irretrievable mistake in laying down their arms before imperialism was defeated.

FLYING FROM LONDON TO ROME.

ROME, Feb. 22.

A British chaser plane, which left London yesterday, has arrived.

The journey was completed in six stages.

DON'T COUGH.

It is absurd to allow a cough to hang on and sap your vitality when Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will cure you. You don't know where a persistent cough will lead you. You can't afford to allow your throat and lungs to become diseased when it is such a simple thing to stop it in its early stages and get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

## THE WESTERN FRONT.

## SUCCESSFUL FRENCH ENTERPRISE.

LONDON, Feb. 24.

A French communiqué says:—There was fairly heavy artillery activity in the region of Vannollon, Chavignon, Butte-du-Mesnil and on the left of the Meuse.

Our detachments in Upper Alsace valiantly penetrated Pont Daspach and the region north-west of Asch-le-Bas, destroyed German organisations, set fire to several dugouts, inflicted losses on the enemy and brought back prisoners.

LIVELY ARTILLERY ON FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, Feb. 22.

A French communiqué says:—There were fairly lively artillery duels along the whole front, especially in the regions of the Forest of Pinon, Chevreux, Calmar, Butte-du-Mesnil, Hartmannswiller and Ladoller. There were no infantry actions.

THE CAPTURE OF JERICHO.

ITS MILITARY IMPORTANCE.

LONDON, Feb. 22.

The capture of Jericho is of considerable military importance because it ensures to us a commanding position at the head of comparatively level ground parallel with the Jordan Valley, while it also constitutes another severe blow for the Turks who, unless they are far more disorganised than there is reason to hope, will probably bring off formidable reinforcements to oppose our further advance.

A noteworthy fact is that the whole of the newly captured district was the private property of the Sultan.

GENERAL ALLENBY'S POSITION WELL DEFINED.

LONDON, Feb. 23.

Reuter is authoritatively informed that much importance is attached to the fact of the British being on the banks of the Jordan, which will greatly help in establishing touch with the Arabs thereby greatly encouraging their allies, who have fought a long and tough fight against overwhelming numbers.

General Allenby's position is now well defined. On the right flank rests the Dead Sea and on the left the Mediterranean, hence a frontal attack alone is possible for the enemy. We control the Dead Sea and have access to the rich lands on the eastern sides and menace the railway to Damascus.

Ahead, we have an easier country and better roads.

FRENCH AIRSHIP COLLIDES WITH A CLIFF.

PARIS, Feb. 22.

The Temps says that a French dirigible balloon scouting near Havre on Feb. 20 accidentally collided with a cliff. The dirigible exploded, wounding a number of civilians, and the commander and one of the crew were killed and the dirigible was destroyed.

A BLIND MAN PLAYS BILLIARDS.

INMATE OF THE ST. DUNSTON'S HOSPITAL.

A blind man played a billiard match in London last month against a man with sight and scored 93 points in 1 hr. 10 mins.

The match took place at the National Maritime Club, the blind player being Sergeant Shaw, who lost his eyesight in the second battle of Ypres. He is an inmate of St. Dunstan's Hospital, Regent's Park, and at the end of the contest the mariners present collected £25 for the hospital funds.

The blind man played his game by sound and feeling. His opponent had to take his hand and one of the table immediately he had made his stroke, so that he should have every chance to follow the balls by sound and vibration—he always had one hand on the table.

The positions of the balls were described to him. The stranger's thing was that, although he advanced his hand to locate the exact place of the balls, he only two or three times actually touched a ball. He said that he could sense the ball, just as anyone in a dark room could tell by the "feel" on his face when he is close to a wall. He described it as feeling a coldness. He played poorly at first making some mistakes, but when he settled to his game he generally made one score. His highest break was nine.

He was allowed to sit on the table—he could not use a rest—and he played several shots behind his back. He had, of course, been a player before he lost his sight. He had often to be told which was the red ball, but his sense of location was so good that he once indicated to his opponent that the latter was about to play the wrong ball.

Everyone who witnessed the game was much impressed by the extraordinary intensity of the blind man's senses and his remarkable skill. Sergeant Shaw is a Yorkshireman, who lived for a long time in London, but emigrated in Canada in the Princess Patricia's Regiment, and it was said in the trench known as "Leicester Square" (Leicester Square, London, is one of the world's centres of billiards) that he lost his sight. He was married a few weeks ago, and he and his wife are taking up poultry farming in Norfolk.

FEELING IN THE THROAT.

IT'S the slightest tickling or irritation in the throat may be the forerunner of a dangerous illness. Stop it at once with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

## DISINTERRED BABYLON.

## FORGOTTEN GLORIES OF CITY OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR.

[BY EDMUND CANDLEL IN THE "TIMES"]

By the Tigris and Euphrates mortality is the most obvious thing that meets the eye as one rides abroad, but the dearest of dead things in this Mesopotamian waste is Babylon.

Nineteen years ago, when I visited the site, the ground was mostly scratched by the professional excavators, though the robbers of bricks had been busy quarrying there for centuries. The excavations were begun by the German archaeologists in March, 1899, and from 200 to 250 workmen were employed daily, winter and summer, until the war put an end to the work. The greater part of the city which the Germans have brought to light belongs to the comparatively modern period of Nebuchadnezzar (604-561 B.C.), but there are traces in the ruins left by two first Babylonian Kings (circa 2500 B.C.), and successive strata reveal the streets and houses built by succeeding dynasties of the Assyrian, Neo-Babylonian, Persian, and Greek-Parthian periods. Also there are tablets that prove a prehistoric Babylon, but it is impossible to carry excavations down to that depth owing to the rise in the water level.

The city walls of Nebuchadnezzar are a triple rampart. Two teams of four horses abreast could pass each other on the outer barrier. The whole circuit, according to the evidence of the excavations, was 11½ miles, but Cleopatra gives four times, and Herodotus nearly five times, this circumference. The excavators have followed the line of the Kasas Roadway, a broad street which leads to the Ishtar Gate made by Nebuchadnezzar as a processional road for the great God Marduk, to whose temple of Esqigia it leads. The walls of the Ishtar Gate stand 40 ft. above the foundations, and are covered with figures of bulls and dragons in brick relief. There is little else that is decorative to catch the uninitiated eye at Babylon. The silver and gold and precious stones with which Sardanapalus filled the temple of Esqigia are forgotten. The images have been removed, the double doors of cedarwood overlaid with copper.

It is hard to tell whether one is standing on the roof of the floor at Babylon. The roofs of one period became the foundations of the next. But in a general way in spite of the super-imposed strata of the hungry generations that have trodden one another down, the identification of sites in Babylon is easier than in most ancient cities. And this is due to the inscriptions on the bricks and flagstones. For the Kings of Babylonia were providentially vain. They left their stamp everywhere in no uncertain characters. Sardanapalus invoked curses on the head of whosoever should destroy the records of his name. "Him may Marduk, the King of All, behold with wrath, and destroy his name and his seed in the land." Nebuchadnezzar caused a legend to be inscribed on every brick, glorifying his works. On the edge of each slab under the Ishtar Gate was an inscription which was destined to remain hidden and invisible until turned over by the curious excavator after 25 centuries had gone.

Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, son of Nabopolassar, King of Babylon, am I. The Babylon Street I paved with blocks of Shad-stone for the procession of the great Lord Marduk. Marduk, Lord, grant eternal life.

Nebuchadnezzar, speaking in the bricks of a protective wall he built in the Euphrates, says:—"I raised its foundation on the depth of the water, its top I exalted like the wooded mountains." He was familiar, it seems, with the existence of mountains. And to my mind this is the most wonderful thing about Babylon, that these Kings, with all the wealth and resources they could command, should have chosen to live in their spirit by the Euphrates. For thousands of years the greatest sovereigns of the earth selected for choice the climate of Hell.

The millions of stamped bricks and the thousands of inscribed ones have preserved the name of the great King as enduringly as he could have wished. But he is forgotten by the people of the land. All his bricks and memorials are in vain. Even the Lord Marduk is as dead as his Royal suppliant and protector. With neither name could one conjure up the humbler local spirit or awaken a shadow of reverence or awe. Persia, Parthia, Greece, and Rome have passed since, and barely remembered.

FOOD HOLDERS FIXED.

LONDON, January 2.—The magistrates are fixing heavily all foodholders. Lady Gore Langton had to pay a fine of £80 for having bought sufficient tea for a year's consumption. Miss Marie Correll was fined £20. She protested that she was a patriot and denied the charge of foodhoarding. She exclaimed:—"You police are overstepping your duty and upsetting the country." The members of the general public applaud the prosecution of such foodhoarders.

It appears from the evidence that Miss Marie Correll purchased 28 pounds of sugar, and 32 pounds of tea in a month. Some of the goods were purchased locally and some in London. Miss Correll pleaded that she made 470 lbs. of jam. Lady Gore Langton had 136 lbs. of tea, 35 lbs. of coffee and many other articles, some of which were concealed on the top floor of her house. The Bench confiscated the tea.

DON'T RISK PNEUMONIA.

Get rid of every cold as quickly as possible. It is the forerunner of all pulmonary trouble and pneumonia may develop in a few hours. Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is a simple thing to do, but the effect is marvellous. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

## HARPER'S BALSAMIC COUGH LINCTUS.

The mild and soothing influence which this preparation has, classifies it among the most valuable of its kind. In cases of Cough, Asthma, Bronchitis, Shortness of Breathing, or Difficulty of Expectoration; and when it removes the accumulation of phlegm from the Trachea and Asthma, it is a powerful remedy for the formation and the irritation of the membranes of the throat and chest, rendering these delicate parts less susceptible of future irritation and disease.

PRICES: \$1.00 and \$1.50 PER BOTTLE.

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The Apex, The Cruz, The Acme, The Alpha and Omega OF ALL THAT STANDS FOR PERFECTION IN THE CIRCUS WORLD.

See our Beautiful Arab Stallions and Performing Ponies. OUR MENAGERIE CONSISTS OF: Elephants, Lions, Tigers, Bears, Leopards, Hyenas, Kudu, Zebras, Wallaby, Baboon, Monkeys, Dogs, etc.

MAIN EVENTS: WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS. COMMENCE 4 P.M. DOORS OPEN 3 P.M.

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NOTICE—Special Train Cars will run before and after the Night Performances to within two minutes walk of the Circus tent.

POPULAR PRICES OF ADMISSION:

FULL BOX SIX SEATS \$15.00 SECOND CHAIRS \$1.50

SOVEREIGN SEAT \$3.00 STALLS 1.00

FIRST CHAIRS 2.00 GALLERY 0.50

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform, Half Price to the £1 and \$1.50 seats.

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IN 14 MONTHS WE SAVED THE LIVES OF 7,000 OF BELGIUM'S LITTLE ONES.

WILL YOU NOT HELP US TO SAVE OTHERS?

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Steamers	Tons	Sailings
To JAVA and SINGAPORE Guenther	10,000	27th February.
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These superior passenger steamers have excellent accommodation for first and second class saloon passengers.

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